

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### UNBORN VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 26, 2001*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to speak on H.R. 503, the "Unborn Victims of Violence Act."

Although this bill recently passed the House by a vote of 252 to 172, it is important that we not give up the fight to protect women from violence, but equally as important, a woman's right to choose.

Acts of violence against women, particularly pregnant women, are tragic and should be punished accordingly. However, the Unborn Victims of Violence Act is not the answer to imposing such punishment because it seeks to separate the woman from her fetus in the eyes of the law, elevating the legal status of the fetus to that of an adult human being.

Currently, sentencing guidelines already exist that enable Federal judges to impose increased penalties for criminal acts that compromise a woman's pregnancy. Such penalties punish the additional injury to the woman without recognizing the fetus as a legal entity separate and distinct from the woman. And certainly, this is how it should be.

Clearly, the best way to protect the fetus, is to better protect the woman, and it is my hope that Congress will one day enact a more reasoned approach to violence against women.

### TRIBUTE TO DR. ROBERT HAAKENSEN

**HON. JOSEPH M. HOFFEL**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 27, 2001*

Mr. HOFFEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dr. Robert Haakenson upon his award as the 2001 Democrat of the Year and the Lifetime Achievement Award. Dr. Haakenson has served the Township of Cheltenham and the residents of Montgomery County, Pennsylvania in various capacities for the past fifty years.

As a young man of 14, Dr. Haakenson joined the Minnesota National Guard and went on to bravely serve his country in the Navy during World War II. He saw duty which included amphibious attack landings on Sicily, Salerno, Anzio, and Southern France. He retired as a Lieutenant Commander. Following his service, he received his M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Iowa.

Since 1953, Dr. Haakenson has served as a Democratic Committeeperson in Cheltenham and has been the chairman of the Democratic District 154 for thirty-eight years. In 1963, he began his tenure on the Montgomery County Democratic Executive Committee where he

was responsible for slating countywide candidates. He was elected Fourth Ward Commissioner in 1973 and was twice re-elected. He has been instrumental in gaining residential permit parking throughout the township and in the creation of the Victorian Homes of Wyncote Historic District.

He also has served as a member of various boards and committees which include: Citizens Scholarship Foundation of America, Health Watch Inc., Carson Valley School, and the Committee of Seventy to name just a few.

In addition to his political activities, he is a practicing psychologist and he and his wife Peg are known for their great singing voices.

It is an honor to recognize Bob on his awards. I congratulate him on fifty years of service to the Cheltenham Community.

### CONGRATULATIONS TO CORNELL IRON WORKS ON EXPANSION

**HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 27, 2001*

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Cornell Iron Works, an outstanding company that has been in existence since 1828. Cornell, which moved to Northeastern Pennsylvania in 1965, began operations at its new, larger plant last month.

In 1997, I was proud to present Cornell's management with the Family Business of the Year award from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for companies with 50 to 250 employees, and I am pleased to congratulate Cornell on its recent expansion. I am also pleased to note that a major reason the company chose to expand in Northeastern Pennsylvania rather than move is its dedicated, quality workforce.

The new plant is dedicated to Milton Keen Cornell, president of the company from 1969 to 1997 and father of current president Andrew Cornell.

Cornell Iron Works is a quintessential American success story. George Cornell and Samuel B. Althaus founded the company in 1828 in New York City. Over the years, the company grew and prospered, thanks in part to patents secured by John Black Cornell for innovations such as a metallic surface for fireproof partitions that would support plaster, which enabled the construction of high-rise fireproof buildings.

The company has contributed to landmark American projects by providing such items as circular stairs and ironwork for the Brooklyn Bridge, the iron base and stairways for the Statue of Liberty, and 8,000 tons of structural steel work for the Park Row Building in New York in 1898, at the time the tallest building in the world. In 1911, Cornell began producing rolling door products, which now forms a large part of its business.

In 1965, the success of the company required it to move to Mountaintop, Pennsylvania, where it expanded further by buying an

adjacent building. This year, Cornell has expanded yet again, from a total of 140,000 square feet at its two former buildings to 190,000 square feet at its new plant. And I have no doubt that the company is capable of meeting its goals to expand even further.

I would like to close by calling attention to the fact that Cornell Iron Works was recently named one of the Best Places to Work in Pennsylvania.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to congratulate Cornell Iron Works and its employees on their decades of success, and I wish them all the best in the future.

### AUTISM: THE SILENT EPIDEMIC

**HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, April 27, 2001*

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, it is not an exaggeration to say that autism spectrum disorders may be the silent epidemic of our time. It is silent because this developmental disorder has robbed at least 400,000 children of their ability to communicate and interact with their families and loved ones. It is silent because there are currently no operational autism registries in the nation to tell us how many people are actually afflicted with this disorder. Current statistics tell us that autism affects at least one in every 500 children in America, and much of the recent anecdotal evidence suggests that autism rates are increasing. The real prevalence rate may be closer to one in every 250 children.

One of the reasons Congressman MIKE DOYLE and I formed the Coalition for Autism Research and Education (C.A.R.E.), which now has 115 members, is to provide us with a critically needed forum where autism issues—and proposed solutions—can be debated and discussed. Autism briefings, such as the one we held earlier today on early identification and intervention of autism, allow us to talk about the many problems associated with this disorder and give us the opportunity to find legislative remedies to these problems.

For example, I am in the process of drafting legislation that I believe can help the victims of autism and their families. This legislation will focus on improving education and support services, such as early intervention, for persons with the autism spectrum disorder.

First, my proposed legislation will seek to correct the inequities of existing early intervention program. Today, children with autism are only allowed to receive two hours a week of early intervention through Part C (Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities Program) of the Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP). My legislation seeks to increase funding in Part C so that children with autism can obtain more than two hours of early intervention a week. Two hours a week of early intervention is not nearly enough time to help children with autism learn and grow. This legislation will

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